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Pewaukee School District becomes the 7th StormReady School District in Wisconsin

National Weather Service officials have recognized the Pewaukee School District as a StormReady Supporter. The StormReady program helps community leaders and residents better prepare for hazardous weather and flooding. StormReady Supporters have made a strong commitment to implement the infrastructure and systems needed to save lives and protect property when severe weather strikes.

"Getting an entire school district to be considered StormReady is a large task. From determining where the appropriate shelters are, to running annual drills, to providing coordination on weather monitoring during after hour school events, the Pewaukee School District has gone above and beyond the standard of weather safety to ensure that their students and staff are safe during severe weather events," said Tim Halbach, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service Milwaukee.

"Pewaukee School District is proud to be the 7th recipient of the StormReady designation in the State of Wisconsin. StormReady is a proactive risk strategy that educates us on weather-related risks to our district. With the help of Fair Skies Consulting and the National Weather Service, our school district now meets, and exceeds federal standards of weather safety for monitoring and alerting of risk and sheltering for dangerous weather," said John Stangler, Director of Buildings and Ground and Safety Coordinator, Pewaukee School District

The nationwide community preparedness program, founded in 1999, is a grassroots approach to preparing for natural hazards. Today, more than 3,000 U.S. communities are better prepared for severe weather through the StormReady program.

To be recognized as StormReady, a site must maintain a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center; have more than one way to receive National Weather Service warnings and to alert the public; be able to monitor local weather and flood conditions; conduct community preparedness programs; and ensure hazardous weather and flooding are addressed in formal emergency management plans, which include training SKYWARN® weather spotters and holding emergency exercises.

The StormReady program is part of the National Weather Service's working partnership with the <u>International Association of Emergency Managers</u> and the <u>National Emergency Management</u> <u>Association</u>. The StormReady Supporter recognition is valid for 5 years and can be renewed.

<u>The National Weather Service's Milwaukee/Sullivan Forecast Office</u>, located in Dousman, WI., is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for about 3 million people in 20 counties in southern Wisconsin. Join us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>. Working with partners, the <u>National Weather Service</u> is building a <u>Weather-Ready Nation</u> to support community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather.

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